

Interim Agenda of the National Type Evaluation Program (NTEP) Committee

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INTRODUCTION

The NTEP Committee will address the following items at its 2005 Interim Meeting. Except when posted, all meetings are open to the membership. The members will be invited to dialogue with the NTEP Committee on issues that the NTEP Committee has on its agenda. The NTEP Committee is currently working on the following issues:

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1. Test Data Exchange Agreements

Background/Discussion: This item was included on the Committee's agenda in 1998 to provide an update on NTEP's work to establish bilateral and multilateral agreements. Under such agreements and arrangements, manufacturers would be able to submit their equipment to any of the participating countries for testing to OIML-recommended requirements. The resulting test data would be accepted by other participants, as a basis for issuing each country's own type approval certificate. Following is a report on the three types of test data exchange agreements.

Mutual Acceptance Arrangement (MAA): NTEP Director, Stephen Patoray attended an MAA workshop and OIML Conference and CIML Meeting in Berlin, Germany in October 2004. He will update the attendees at the 2005 NCWM Interim meeting regarding the current status of the MAA and other developments.

This item will also be discussed as part of the NCWM Board Agenda.

Bilateral Agreements: No additional discussions have been held on this topic, pending the outcome of the MAA discussions.

NTEP-Canada Mutual Recognition Program: No additional areas of MRA activities have been identified.

NTEP and Measurement Canada Laboratories again met to work on the details of the MRA checklist for Weighing Instruments.

2. Adoption of Uniform Regulation for National Type Evaluation by States

Background/Discussion: The Scale Manufacturers Association (SMA) has hosted NTEP adoption and implementation meetings for state directors at each regional weights and measures association conference. These meetings enable jurisdictions to share information about adopting and implementing NTEP in their respective jurisdictions, encourage non-NTEP jurisdictions to adopt the regulation, and allow current NTEP jurisdictions to share ideas on how to make enforcement more effective and uniform among the States. The meetings also provide NTEP management with information related to areas in which the operation and implementation of the program can be improved. Several questions have been posed at these meetings about issues associated with NTEP interpretation or practice. Comments from 1997 to 2004 have been summarized, without attribution, and are available for review and download on the SMA web site at <http://www.scalemanufacturers.org>.

SMA will also update the NTEP Committee on the status of SMA's drive to assist States to adopt the Uniform Regulation for National Type Evaluation and the Uniform Regulation for the Voluntary Registration of Servicepersons and Service Agencies.

3. NTEP Participating Laboratories and Evaluations Reports

At the 2005 NCWM Interim Meeting, Stephen Patoray, NTEP Director will update the Committee on NTEP laboratory and administrative activities since October 1, 2002. A report of NTEP Laboratory Activities will be distributed at the 2005 NCWM Interim Meeting.

The NTEP Weighing and Measuring Laboratories held a joint meeting in April 2004 in Ottawa, Canada. Mr. Patoray reported that the agenda topics for this meeting focused heavily on technical training issues for the laboratories. The NTEP Weighing Laboratories also met August 29, 2004 before the meeting of the Weighing Sector in Ottawa, Canada. The meeting of the Measuring Sector was held on October 21-22, 2004 in Gulfport, MS. The next laboratory meeting is planned for April 2005, in Columbus, Ohio.

4. NTETC Sectors Reports

The Committee will hear an update on the activities of the National Type Evaluation Technical Committee (NTETC) Sectors at the 2005 NCWM Interim Meeting. Outlined below is a brief summary of Sector activities since the 2004 NCWM Annual Meeting.

Grain Moisture Meter and NIR Protein Analyzer Sectors: The NTETC Grain Moisture Meter and NIR Protein Analyzer Sectors held a joint meeting in Kansas City, MO on August 26-27, 2004. A draft of the final summary will be provided to the Committee prior to the 2004 NCWM Interim Meeting for review and approval.

The next meeting of the Grain Moisture Meter and NIR Protein Analyzer Sectors is scheduled for August 2005 in Kansas City, MO. For questions on the current status of Sector work or to propose items for a future meeting, please contact the Sector Technical Advisors:

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Measuring Sector: The NTETC Measuring Sector met October 21-22, 2004, in Gulfport, MS. A draft of the final summary will also be provided to the NTEP Committee prior to the 2005 NCWM Interim Meeting for review and approval.

The next meeting of the Measuring Sector is scheduled for October 2005 in conjunction with the Southern Weights and Measures Association's Annual Meeting. For questions on the current status of Sector work or to propose items for a future meeting, please contact the Sector Technical Advisor:

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Weighing Sector: The NTETC Weighing Sector met August 29-31, 2004, in Ottawa, Canada. A final draft of the meeting summary will also be provided to the Committee prior to the 2005 NCWM Interim Meeting for review and approval.

The next Weighing Sector meeting is scheduled for September 2005 in Columbus, Ohio. For questions on the current status of Sector work or to propose items for a future meeting, please contact the Sector Technical Advisor:

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NTETC Sector Summaries: The NTEP Committee will receive copies of the summaries prior to the NCWM Interim Meeting for their review and approval. Past NTETC Sector summaries are available upon request from NCWM and the NIST Sector Technical Advisors:

NCWM Inc. or
Phone: 240-632-9454
e-mail: ncwm@mgmtsol.com

NIST WMD Technical Advisor, Steve Cook
(See contact information above)

5. NTEP Participation in U.S. National Working Group on Harmonization of NIST Handbook 44, NCWM Publication 14 and OIML R 76 and R 60.

An update on the current status of this project will be provided at the 2005 NCWM Interim meeting.

6. Mix and Match Elements

An update on the current status of this project will be provided at the 2005 NCWM Interim meeting.

G. Weston Diggs, Virginia, NCWM Chair
Dennis Ehrhart, Arizona NTEP Committee Chair
Don Onwiler, Nebraska, NCWM Chairman-Elect
Stephen Pahl, Texas
Charles Carroll, Massachusetts

NTEP Technical Advisor: S. Patoray, NTEP Director
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National Type Evaluation Program Committee